



25 July 1986

Executive Registry

86- 2429X/2

NOTE FOR D/CCISCMS

SUBJECT: Discussion with SSCI Staff Member

1. John Elliff, SSCI Staffer, phoned me on 25 July 1986. He asked about the status of the unclassified hostile intelligence threat assessment, which was requested in the SSCI Interim Report on Espionage and Security. He said the Staff (Elliff) was eager to review the report soonest in order to put it into the SSCI report. He assured me they would coordinate whatever format for the threat report they developed. I advised Elliff that the unclassified report had been sent to the DCI for final approval and forwarding to the Chairman, SSCI.

2. Of special interest to me was Elliff's remark that there is growing press interest in "this enterprise" (the SSCI report and the President's report). He said the press has been asking what the SSCI is doing as a result of the "year of the spy." Elliff said they have furnished to the press the Durenberger/Leahy statement (on espionage and security) to the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, Committee on Governmental Affairs, and other unclassified material. He said the press is aware of the ongoing effort to produce the SSCI report on espionage and security and of preparation of the President's report. Elliff said that it is important that we look like we are taking some action. He said they are at the point where the Senators want them to be responsive to inquiries. In that context, he mentioned that they would have to look at what can be discussed publicly with respect to actions being taken to improve security.

3. With the above comments in mind, we should be very careful to assure that the President's report conveys a sense of accomplishment in the CI/CM arena, which is a valid position, rather than implying there are areas of disarray.

STAT



B-602-1R

X-ref: B-318-1R